

DRAMA

TEXT

None

PREREQUISITES

None

OBJECTIVES

The course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the elements of drama and give them the opportunity to analyze and perform a variety of roles and styles of acting. The course will work to develop not only improvisational acting skills, but also understand the concepts of staging and scene development of performance theater.

CONTENT

Elements of Drama: By initially teaching students the elements of drama (i.e. character, theme, dialogue, genre, design, costume, objective and emotion), students will gain a greater understanding of drama and theater and will begin to be prepared to apply that understanding to the development of acting skills. There will be reading and writing assignments in this segment of the class.

Character/Scene Development and Analysis: Students will be provided with a system to analyze characters and dialogue that will give them a consistent approach to the development of scenes. Students will analyze and review each other's performances in class exercises and will work together as they progress toward the goal of performing scenes and one act plays. Students will learn to plan a scene from a showmanship point of view and then put that plan into action. This is designed to enhance not only student's acting skills, but also their appreciation of the art of performance theater.

Development of Acting Skills: Acting cannot be absorbed; you have to do it. Consequently, students will be given many opportunities to hone their skills in a variety of exercises. Students will learn the importance of emotion and sense memory in acting and the inner life actors can give to their characters. Students will be encourage to lose their sense of self and give themselves over to the moment of the performance. Utilizing exercises from a variety of acting workshops, students will learn different exercises and techniques to assist them to give life to their characters.

SKILLS

- Present scenes and plays to the class
- Write and present short skits to the class
- Explore improvisation and pantomime

- Learn how to constructively evaluate performances
- Work in a group cooperatively with a single goal
- Explore the many facets of character analysis
- Study plays from various genres of theatre
- Learn how to present a play to an audience

METHODS

- In class performances of monologues, scenes and skits
- Theatre games and exercises
- Improvisation exercises
- Play production including play reading, line memorization, and character work
- Develop ideas for short films, cinematography and production

HOMEWORK

Homework will consist of memorization of lines, rehearsal for performances, and writing scripts and scenes.

GRADING/CREDITS

1/3 of grade is based on attendance, 1/3 of grade is based on participation, and 1/3 of grade is based on effort.

INDIVIDUALIZATION

All students are required to participate to the best of their ability. This means each student's personality is taken into account when being graded.

ABSENCES/TARDIES

Excessive tardies or absences will result in lowered grade and/or credit.